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note 23
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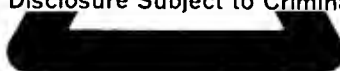
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**NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
CENTRAL SECURITY SERVICE
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755**

Serial: N 0077
25 January 1982

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

ATTN: EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY PANEL

SUBJECT: Secure Communications

1. We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on the paper "Secure Communications" produced by the DCI Science and Technology Advisory Panel (STAP).
2. We are aware of the problems discussed in the paper and appreciate the concern of STAP. We believe we are acting and planning properly to deal with the specific issues they raise. The enclosed material contains more detailed comments about the paper, which may be of interest to STAP.
3. We will be happy to respond to any questions that may arise concerning these matters.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. R. Lord", is positioned above the typed name.

C. R. LORD
Chief of Staff

Encl:
a/s

DECLASSIFY UPON REMOVAL OF ENCLOSURE.

APPENDED DOCUMENTS CONTAIN
CODEWORD MATERIAL

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5. (U) Some facts have become clear only in the last year or two which force us to disagree with conclusion 2.b. They are:

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d. (U) All of these events have occurred in the last three or four years, but the pattern has only become clear in recent months.

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7. (S-CCO) This Agency shares the concerns expressed in conclusion 2.c. and recommendation 3.a. We appreciate the STAP interest in these matters but believe we are proceeding appropriately to deal with them. NSA is also taking positive steps to secure the trust and, we hope, the cooperation of the academic community, in order to deal with the problem described in paragraph 6.

8. (S) With respect to recommendation 3.b., we are working on a community-wide basis to fill gaps in our knowledge of the crypto-logic effort, particularly in the key disciplines of mathematics and computer science. Information of this nature is very difficult to obtain, and modeling obviously cannot progress without it.

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9. (C) From a SIGINT viewpoint, it would be most useful to project in five-year increments what the worldwide communications requirements and posture will be. New developments in optical communications, spread spectrum techniques, digital switches, etc. may well have a more significant impact on SIGINT capabilities than would changes in cryptographic practices.

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Comments on the STAP paper "Secure Communications"

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c. (U) The chief concern of the Community ought to be to ensure that the response needed to handle rapid changes will be rapid and thorough.

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Encl.

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REVIEW ON 25 JAN 2012

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